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06.12.83-DD-257539 (24.05.89) A23f-05/10 Preserving aroma of ground roast coffee by roasting coffee beans and adsorbent spraying with water, cooling, sepg. adsorbent, etc. C89-137241

In a process for preserving the aroma of ground roast coffee, a mixt. of ground coffee and up to 20%, based on coffee, of an adsorbent, pre-loaded with water vapour, is fluidised rapidly by a roasting medium, which at the inlet to the fluidised layer has a temp. up to 300°C and a speed of 3-10 m/sec., based on the free cross-section of the fluidised layer.

The mixt, is roasted under these conditions for not more than 300 secs., and after the end of roasting, a corresp. amt. of water is applied in finely divided form to the fluidised layer.

The mixt, is then removed quickly from the roasting stage and transferred to a cooling stage, in which the mixt. is cooled by a circulated, cooled inert medium with inlet temp. below 35°C and speed above 3 m/sec., in such a way that both the coffee beans and the adsorbent particles are

cooled to < 45°C in < 300 secs.

After removal from the cooling stage, the roasted coffee beans are sped, from the adsorbent and are ground, and are then mixed again with the adsorbent. The adsorbent is a mixt. of macroporous silica gel and microporous silica gel in which the amt, of macroporous gel is below 30%, opt. mixed with synthetic or natural zeolite molecular sieves.

ADVANTAGE

The quality of the ground roast coffee is improved, by binding the liberated aromas and flavours on the adsorbent, and a good quality coffee extract can be obtd. from a smaller amt. of coffee. Less energy is required. The prod. can be stored for a longer time without loss of quality. and there is a saving in packaging material.

PREFERRED PROCESS

The dia. of the adsorbent particles is 1-3 mm. Immediately after cooling, the adsorbent is at once ground with the roast coffee. The inert medium in the cooling stage is air directly sucked in...

DD-268150-A

EXAMPLE

80 kg of raw coffee was mixed with 1 kg of macroporous silica gel and 6 kg of microporous SiO, gel, both completely pre-loaded with water vapour at 25°C. The mixt. was rapidly fluidised in a fluidised bed appts., using as fluidising medium a suitable reasting medium, with inlet temp. 235°C and speed, based on the cross-section of flow, of 6 m/sec.

The mixt, was roased under these conditions for 108 secs after which 12 kg of water was sprayed directly into the fluidised layer. The mixt, was then rapidly fed to a cooling stage, consisting of a vortex layer into which a cooling medium was blown at 20°C and 5 m/sec., cooling the beans and the adsorbent to 40°C in 150 secs.

The mixt, was then screened, sepg, the roasted beans from the adsorbent. The amt. of roasted coffee beans in the mixt. was 90.0%, with water content 3.6%, and 9.1% of adsorbent was sepd. The beans were immediately ground, the adsorbent was mixed with the ground coffee, and the

mixt. was packed. The prod. had the same smell and taste as coffee produced normally, but maintained these properties for a longer time. From the same amt. of raw coffee, 8.8% more end prod. could be obtd.(8pp510DAHDwgNo0/0).

DD-268150-A